



JOHN A. WAGNER  
DIRECTOR

**AGENDA ITEM** VI

*Exec Team*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • [www.cdss.ca.gov](http://www.cdss.ca.gov)



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
GOVERNOR

August 26, 2010

Ms. Yolanda Baldovinos, MSW, Director  
Alameda County Social Services Agency  
2000 San Pablo Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94612

Ms. Patricia S. Ploehn, LCSW, Director  
County of Los Angeles  
Department of Children and Family Services  
425 Shatto Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90020

**RECEIVED**

SEP 01 2010

**DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

Dear Ms. Baldovinos and Ms. Ploehn:

I am pleased to inform you that our July 13, 2010, request for an initial ten-month extension for the Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Capped Allocation Project (CAP) has been approved by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). This extension is approved through April 30, 2013. All other aspects of the federal terms and conditions, including current cost-neutrality requirements and procedures and requirements to submit semi-annual progress reports, remain in effect for this period. A copy of the ACF approval letter is enclosed.

The California Department of Social Services would like to express our appreciation for the efforts undertaken by both counties and Casey Family Programs in planning and preparing for the Congressional Briefing and discussion with Assistant Secretary Nazario and Commissioner Samuels on June 11, 2010. These forums allowed us to collectively highlight successes and outcomes achieved by the counties under the waiver and initiate discussions regarding this important extension request.

We look forward to continued collaboration with the two CAP counties, the County Welfare Directors Association, Chief Probation Officers of California, Casey Family Programs, the Child Welfare Co-Investment Partnership, and the rest of our child welfare stakeholder and advocacy community to continue to advocate for comprehensive federal finance reform and the development of our five-year extension proposal.

Ms. Yolanda Baldovinos, MSW, Director  
Ms. Patricia S. Ploehn, LCSW, Director  
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Again, thank you and your team for the work "on the ground" everyday and for all the preparatory work that went into these very successful meetings. Should you have any questions, you may contact me at (916) 657-2598 or Greg Rose, Deputy Director, Children and Family Services, at (916) 657-2614.

Sincerely,



JOHN A. WAGNER  
Director

PC, Sr

Enclosure

c: Miryam Choca, Casey Family Programs  
Karen Pank, CPOC  
Frank Mecca, CWDA  
Joni Pictl, CWCOIP



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
Office of the Assistant Secretary, Suite 600  
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20447

AUG 06 2010

Mr. John Wagner  
Director  
California Department of Social Services  
744 P Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Wagner:

Thank you for your letter highlighting the achievements to date of the California Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Project, authorized by Section 1130 of the Social Security Act, and requesting a short-term extension of the demonstration. In response to your request and in accordance with existing policy regarding extensions of waiver demonstration projects, we are pleased to grant the requested short-term extension.

Procedures for extending waiver demonstration projects are outlined in Information Memorandum ACYF-CB-IM-02-06. In accordance with those procedures, we are approving a short-term extension of your current demonstration project until April 30, 2013, the date that is four months after the due date of your final evaluation report on December 31, 2012. This short-term extension will afford you the opportunity to complete your evaluation report and financial reports, and will provide us with the opportunity to review the results of your demonstration. At the conclusion of this period, a final decision will be made as to whether to extend the project for an additional five years. All other aspects of the current Terms and Conditions, including current cost-neutrality requirements and procedures, and the requirement to submit semi-annual progress reports, remain in effect during the period of this short-term extension.

At the time you submit the final evaluation report, we request that you also submit a letter highlighting the sections of the report that address the evaluation criteria addressed in ACYF-CB-IM-02-06. The letter should include information on whether the project was implemented as intended and met cost neutrality requirements, as well as the extent to which it achieved positive outcomes for children and families. Please also ensure that your evaluation report addresses all three evaluation components (process study, outcome study, and cost analysis) required by Section 3 of your waiver Terms and Conditions. Should you wish to propose changes to any aspects of the design of the demonstration based on your evaluation findings, please also specify the requested changes.

Your letter also referenced a recent court decision that requires the State to increase rates for group home care retroactive to December 14, 2009. As a result of the decision, California is requesting an increase in the amount of Federal funds provided under the

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waiver demonstration's capped allocation to compensate the State for the unforeseen increase in foster care costs. I understand that members of your staff have discussed the issue with staff at the Children's Bureau (CB) and that the State plans to submit additional information relating to the request. Once this information is received, we will be pleased to work with you in negotiating a resolution to this matter.

We commend California and the participating counties of Los Angeles and Alameda for their efforts to improve outcomes for children and families. Should you have any questions regarding the waiver demonstration, please feel free to contact Joseph Bock, Acting Associate Commissioner of CB, at (202) 205-8618.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David A. Hansell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent than the last name "Hansell".

David A. Hansell  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
for Children and Families

cc: Joseph J. Bock, Acting Associate Commissioner, Children's Bureau